

HB 583: A Bill to Support Six Established Montana Food and Agricultural Development Centers

Montana's Food and Agricultural Development Centers have contributed significantly to economic development in both urban and rural communities by ensuring that more of the state's food, agricultural, and energy dollars circulate in Montana. These centers have:

- Served more than _____ in a variety of industries, including biofuels, food processing, wind energy, high-value alternative crops and timber.
- Leveraged nearly _____ for Montana's agricultural economy.
- Created more than _____ in Montana at a time when job creation and retention are crucial.
- Served more than half of Montana's 56 counties and three reservations.

Some notable clients include:

➤ **Farm-Derived Renewable Energy**

Earl Fisher Bio-Fuels: Developing value-added market for oilseed through biofuels

Montana Bio-Industries Cooperative: Oilseeds production and use

Kenfield Wind Park: 20 MW project

Teton Wind Energy: 20 MW project

Peaks & Prairies, Great Plains Oil: Biofuels and biolubricant processing

➤ **Food Production & Processing**

Grains of Montana: New Bakery operation with three franchises in operation

Red Lodge Ales: New facility opening and working to develop hops operation

Cream of the West: Processes and packages locally grown grains

Montana Food Bank Network: Developing a food processing center in Deer Lodge Valley

Sawfly Foundation: Pest elimination

Stillwater Packing: Providing value added and direct marketing for livestock producers

Midland Bull Test: Promoting this technology to add value to seedstock cattle

Orchard at the Flathead: value-added cherry products

Western Montana Growers Cooperative: Value-added market produce cooperative

Superior Meats, Silent Creations, Uncle Bills Sausage Co.: meat processing companies